

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 7, at line 28, as follows:

If the packet-based network 12 is an IP network, the application layer protocol 225 may, in one embodiment, be a Session Initiation Protocol for Telephony (SIP-T) protocol. The SIP-T protocol is an extension of the existing Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), which is described in RFC ~~2453~~ 2543, entitled "Session Initiation Protocol," dated March 1999. The "SIP-T" protocol, as utilized herein, may include any protocol, such as the SIP protocol, that is capable of encapsulating ISUP messages for establishing calls. SIP-T protocol may be used as an application control protocol to carry information over the packet-based network 12 from an ingress media gateway controller (*e.g.*, ~~MCG~~ MGC 14) to an egress media gateway controller (*e.g.*, MGC 16), or vice versa. In accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, the SIP-T protocol is utilized by the egress MGC to retrieve information (*e.g.*, digits) from the ingress MGC. Upon receipt of the appropriate SIP-T messages, the egress MGC can establish a bearer path across the packet-based network 12 in order to complete the call.